



GREENFIELD

Franklin County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Greenfield is a residential community located at the cross roads of Interstate 91, Route 2 and the famous Mohawk Trail in Western Massachusetts, 98 miles from Boston. There are airports nearby and travel to New York City, Springfield, Brattleboro, Vt., Keene, New Hampshire and Montreal, Canada by bus or automobile is convenient.

Greenfield offers all the amenities for residents and visitors for the whole of Franklin County: theaters, drama groups, local newspapers, restaurants, radio stations, library, YMCA, churches, golf courses, centralized shopping with free parking, Farmers Market, covered bridge, historic walking district, skiing and skating areas, museum, hospital, motels, post office, senior center, full time police and fire departments, industrial park, financial institutions, internationally famous private schools, court house and professional services.

Poet Seat Tower provides a picturesque view of a scenic Greenfield Community College Campus and a quiet, friendly town proud of its renovated schools, volunteerism, industrial history, parks and playgrounds, county fair, active business and civic organizations, art and craft shows and the outstanding Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra.

Greenfield residents feel it's just the kind of town most people dream about as the ideal place to live and raise a family - small enough to get to know people personally, yet private - not a suburb to any big city. With its ever changing four-season climate, and surrounded by rivers, lakes, mountains, apple orchards and farm land; they believe it is a good place to visit and a good place to live.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Colrain on the northwest, Leyden and Bernardston on the north, Gill and Montague on the east, Deerfield on the south, and Shelburne on the southwest and west. Greenfield is 36 miles north of Springfield; 95 miles northwest of Boston; 91 miles from Albany, New York; and 170 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 21.93 sq. miles

Land Area: 21.73 sq. miles

Population: 18,666

Density: 859 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Amherst Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.6°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.9°F

Normal annual precipitation.....42.5"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Greenfield, Bernardston, Shelburne Falls, Colrain

Regional Planning Agency

Franklin County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 774-7441

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Town Council

Town Manager

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1753

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	8,875		
Democrats	2,874	32.4	%
Republicans	1,512	17.0	%
Other parties	2	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	4,487	50.6	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Greenfield town, Franklin County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	18,168	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	18,168	100.0
Male.....	8,548	47.0	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	644	3.5
Female.....	9,620	53.0	Mexican.....	73	0.4
Under 5 years.....	957	5.3	Puerto Rican.....	441	2.4
5 to 9 years.....	1,084	6.0	Cuban.....	15	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	1,193	6.6	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	115	0.6
15 to 19 years.....	1,211	6.7	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	17,524	96.5
20 to 24 years.....	1,069	5.8	White alone.....	16,695	91.9
25 to 34 years.....	2,341	12.9	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	2,874	15.8	Total population.....	18,168	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	2,796	15.4	In households.....	17,963	95.6
55 to 59 years.....	878	4.8	Householder.....	7,939	43.7
60 to 64 years.....	597	3.3	Spouse.....	3,066	16.9
65 to 74 years.....	1,223	6.7	Child.....	4,647	25.6
75 to 84 years.....	1,371	7.5	Own child under 18 years.....	3,663	20.2
85 years and over.....	584	3.2	Other relatives.....	496	2.7
Median age (years).....	39.5	(X)	Under 18 years.....	164	0.9
18 years and over.....	14,194	78.1	Nonrelatives.....	1,215	6.7
Male.....	6,539	36.0	Unmarried partner.....	577	3.2
Female.....	7,655	42.1	In group quarters.....	806	4.4
21 years and over.....	13,506	74.3	Institutionalized population.....	652	3.6
62 years and over.....	3,531	19.4	Noninstitutionalized population.....	153	0.8
65 years and over.....	3,178	17.5	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,151	6.3	Total households.....	7,939	100.0
Female.....	2,027	11.2	Family households (families).....	4,377	55.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	2,072	26.1
One race.....	17,727	97.6	Married-couple family.....	3,066	38.6
White.....	16,967	93.4	With own children under 18 years.....	1,241	15.6
Black or African American.....	244	1.3	Female householder, no husband present.....	1,010	12.7
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	58	0.3	With own children under 18 years.....	674	8.5
Asian.....	199	1.1	Nonfamily households.....	3,562	44.9
Asian Indian.....	17	0.1	Householder living alone.....	2,929	36.9
Chinese.....	58	0.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	1,077	13.6
Filipino.....	29	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	2,215	27.9
Japanese.....	11	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	2,089	26.3
Korean.....	43	0.2	Average household size.....	2.19	(X)
Vietnamese.....	11	0.1	Average family size.....	2.88	(X)
Other Asian ¹	30	0.2	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	3	-	Total housing units.....	8,301	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	7,939	95.6
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	362	4.4
Samoan.....	3	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	27	0.3
Some other race.....	256	1.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.1	(X)
Two or more races.....	441	2.4	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	3.5	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	7,939	100.0
White.....	17,352	95.5	Owner-occupied housing units.....	4,271	53.8
Black or African American.....	364	2.0	Renter-occupied housing units.....	3,668	46.2
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	230	1.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.42	(X)
Asian.....	286	1.6	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.92	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	17	0.1			
Some other race.....	389	2.1			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	248
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	110
Federal (Section 8):	330



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The major axes of transportation in Franklin County, where Greenfield is located, are State Route 2 and Interstate Route 91, which follows the Connecticut River. The region is well-served by rail. The Springfield Terminal Railway lines (the former Boston and Maine Railroad) parallel the two major highways, and the Central Vermont Railway's main line passes N-S through the eastern portion of the county.

Major Highways

Principal highways are Interstate Route 91 and U.S. Route 5 running N-S across Massachusetts, and State Route 2, which runs E-W across northern Massachusetts.

Rail

Freight rail service is available from the Springfield Terminal Railway. Contact number: (508) 663-1073.

Bus

Greenfield is a member of the Greenfield Montague Transportation Area (GMTA), which provides fixed route service within Greenfield, and to Amherst and Montague. The Franklin Regional Transit Authority provides fixed route service during private school terms. The Peter Pan Bus Lines, Inc. provides service to Boston. Vermont Transit Lines provides service to Vermont.

Other

The Turners Falls Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 3,013'x 75' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Historical Society of Greenfield
43 Church Street
(413) 772-6992

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Franklin Medical Center
Stoneliagh-Burnham School Inf

Long Term Care

Buckley Nursing Home
Charlene Manor Ext. Care Fac.
Franklin Nursing and Rehab. Center
Poets Seat Nursing Home

Hospices

Hospice In Franklin County

Rest Homes

Pioneer Valley Manor Resthome

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.